

**Legislative Briefing: Let's Improve Medication Choices for
Medicare Beneficiaries with Depression
Thursday, May 9th
Lunch Briefing: 12:00 to 1:30 pm
Location: 2103 RHOB**

Dear Colleague:

In celebration of May Mental Health Awareness Month, we cordially invite you and your staff to attend a lunch briefing **on Thursday, May 9th at 12:00 pm in 2103 RHOB**. The briefing, hosted by Myriad, will focus on two pressing issues impacting the treatment of patients with clinical depression: local coverage determinations restricting access to precision medicine tests that improve the medical management of depression and proposed Center for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) regulations that erode patient-physician choice among Medicare Part D “Six Protected Classes” medications.

Health care providers prescribing depression medications for Medicare beneficiaries need more tools to direct their decisions and greater flexibility to change course when clinically appropriate. Forcing patients to fail on medications based on cost rather than allowing a physician to select the most appropriate drug based on the individual patient's clinical and genetic needs, will negatively affect health outcomes and ultimately increase healthcare system costs.

Come hear an exciting panel of speakers discuss two Medicare policies in need of change that limit physician treatment decisions:

- **Moderator: Jennifer Snow, Director of Public Policy, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)**
- **Medicare Local Coverage Determinations: Michael R. Jablonski, Ph.D. M.S., Vice President, Medical Affairs, Myriad Genetics**
- **Medicare Six Protected Classes: Michael Petruzzelli, Senior Manager, Policy & Advocacy, National Council for Behavioral Health**

To RSVP, please email Lovely Davlimar at: medicaremhbriefing@gmail.com.

Warm regards,

Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress
Co-Chair, Mental Health Caucus

John Katko
Member of Congress
Co-Chair, Mental Health Caucus